

MINUTES OF CHAPTER MEETING
LAKE NOW
JULY 16, 2014

Date, Time, Location: July 16, 2014, 7:00 p.m. W.T. Bland Library, Mount Dora, Florida

Count of Members and Guests: 9 members and 3 guests were in attendance, which included Ella and Henry Paets from the GTDC.

Presiding Officer: Sandra Gray Paradise, President. Also in attendance: Carol King, Immediate Past President (left early); Vice-President, Lucinda McGinn; Membership Director, Deana Goldstein. and Karen Salvat, Treasurer (arrived late). Barbara Hill, Secretary, was absent.

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by President Sandra Gray Paradise.

Meet the Candidates:

B. Grassel and Marie Rich addressed the group. B Grassel is a Republican candidate for Florida House district 31. The primary on August 26th will decide this election because there are no candidates other than Republican candidates. Ms. Grassel is a moderate who is pro-equality, pro-LGBTQ, pro-choice, pro-ERA, and pro-medical marijuana. Ms. Rich is a Lake NOW member who is running for the Mt. Dora City Council At-Large seat.

Program:

The program was a movie entitled *Billy and Alan*, which is the story of *Orlando Weekly* writer Billy Manes' experiences after the death of his partner of 11 years. In the anti-gay State of Florida, where same-sex relationships are not recognized and are not afforded any legal protections, Billy had to fight to save everything he and Alan owned together. A discussion followed.

Officers Reports:

Financial – Karen Salvat:

Karen reported all is well and Lake NOW had two successful fundraisers this past year. The Chapter must look forward to see what fundraising opportunities are available for 2015. As noted on the financial statement, the savings account has earned \$0.11 totaling \$500.11. Checking account balance as of June 30th is \$3,295.99. The Chapter has not received any funds from Florida NOW for the conference as of yet.

Secretary – Barbara Hill:

In Barbara's absence, the minutes of the June 18, 2014, general membership meeting were approved as presented.

Upcoming Events:

- The next Board meeting will be held at 4:00 p.m., August 4th at the Cajun Quarter in Tavares. A social will follow at 5:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, August 12th, the Book Club will meet at the Mount Dora Library to discuss *Winona's Righteous Warriors*, by Gypsy Marie Roberts (a NOW member).
- No general membership meeting will be held in August.
- September 3rd, the Board meeting will be held at 4:00 p.m. at Fiesta Grande in Mount Dora. A social will follow at 5:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, September 9th, the Book Club will meet at the Mount Dora Library. The book for the month is *In the Time of Butterflies*, by Julia Alvarez.
- There will be a general membership meeting September 17th.

Other Events and News:

- Lake NOW members have been invited to the Ladies Leesburg Boat Club luncheon on August 8th at 11:30 a.m. The cost is \$25.00 per person and the proceeds will be donated to support homeless families. One of their sponsors is the Republican Women's Club.
- A Judges' forum will be held at the Leesburg Library on August 2nd from 2:00-4:00 p.m.
- A thank you was received from George Sheldon who is a candidate for Attorney General. He is endorsed by Florida NOW.

The next Chapter meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 17, 2014, at 7:00 p.m., at the W.T. Bland Library, Mount Dora.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Date: July 23, 2014

Karen Salvat for Barbara M. Hill
Secretary